

Topline tip. . . Just in by Telex from London: ANTIGUA - Joint BBC/DW relay stn to be operated by mutually-owned Caribbean Relay Co., now has operational target date set for July. Staff to be BBC and DW engineers and locally-recruited technicians. BBC is responsible for design and construction and operation of xmitting stn, while DW responsible per the agreement for receiving post. Site consists of 240 acres w/pwr for 4x250 KW SW xmtrs and 18 curtain array antennas, and will (more below)

DX Hotline

Next deadlines:
2/26 and 3/11
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ANTIGUA - (cont'd from above) ...relay existing pgms of the bcsters, but on separate fqs. The entire complex is expected to be completed by early 1977. (BBC telex to Steve Christy, senior engineer, BBC-NYC, direct to DXH) In addition, Christy says they have no knowledge of another relay going up in neighboring Montserrat. DW has not pulled out and the joint rly stn is going according to sked. HOWEVER,

MONTSERRAT - There is still the outside chance that DW is (for no imaginable reason!) doing a solo job on Montserrat. Per Larry Magne, Pa., in Numero Uno (NU), "The DW handbook '76 notes, 'At present a relay stn is under construction jointly by DW and BBC at two locations on the islands of Antigua and Montserrat in the Caribbean...By 1976/77 DW will be broadcasting its pgms via two 250 KW and one 50 KW SW xmtrs mainly to areas in N., C. and S. Am." (DW Handbook) So, the 50 kWer not mentioned in the BBC info could possibly be a back-up, separate DW venture on Montserrat. It seems unlikely the DW, which per the BBC is responsible for the rcving site, would install this on separate island, 40 miles to the SW of the main site, necessitating unnecessary duplication of equipment. The one other possibility is that the DW-Handbook info, at least a half-year old due to publishing constraints, may no longer be valid. /Ed.

SCUSA-ME - ...for any silly typos this DXH. Send complaints directly to Schering Corp., which has allowed ye ed to trade a runny nose for mild disorientation of Coricidin 'buzz.'

PIRATE - 1623v, WCFR, 0430-0632 EE, telephone call-ins, pops drifting down to 1621 by 0630, bad het between two UTES, tried to call to get them to move to 1630 where they would be in the clear but could not get through. (Lineback, Hauser, Russell and friends 1-31) Pirate now on 1625 ex-1620, 1618, was being killed by LORAN stuff from Great Lakes. (National Radio Club bulletin) Cf. Jan DXH. According to source claiming this from Illinois Bell Security Dept., "the phone numbers given out by the pirate stn are internal company test loops. These numbers are assigned in pairs. One persons calls the first test loop number and is put on standby status. As soon as the other person calls the other test number in the pair, the two are connected. Thus, for instance, you could be in Los Angeles, dial the first test number of the pair and when someone from Florida calls the Brooklyn number, he is connected to you. Note, however, it is illegal to dial and used these test numbers. It can result in phone svc to your QTH being terminated." (Anon.) But reception basis tests seem to limit xmtr to ECNA -- and apparently NYC -- area. /Ed. 1-31 reception of WCFR not really readable and no ID. (Hauser, Ill.)

GUYANA - 5950, GBS, 1007 2-1 w/YL in EE, local and Caribbean nx. (Jack Jones, Miss.) Nice!

CHILE - 9650, R. Tiki, 1037 in SS, slogan as "La Dimension, ciento cuarenta seis" and ID as "R. Tiki", pops interspersed w/noticias, hrd no mtn of "R. Yungay." (Jones)

Propagational picks. . . Not wishing to jump the gun, we at Hotline feel compelled to issue a warning to be on the lookout for an earlier "break" of the season's second Indonesian prime time, probably from the moment you are reading this. Indications are the usual reception seasons for the various areas have been skewed this year, so mornings of "unsettled" to "quiet" conditions could well bring RRI and RPKD bonuses. One word, tho...should the 90 mb PNGS start bombing in, you can forget Indo's because they probably won't be there!

CLANDESTINE/NEW HEBRIDES? - 7119, new stn bestg in pidgin called Voice of Nagriamel, R. (?Tanapu) noted over RRI-Jayapura 7120, w/political discussion 0945 1/20 and a few island songs to 1000 s/off w/full ID and ancg 3.975 and 7.12 Mc. Unsure of location. Nagriamel is a NH political party with stronghold on the large island of Santo. Also on 3,974//7118 on 1/28 at 0940 w/island songs. (Robert Yeo, Australia, NU)

AUSTRALIA - This is the official ops sked for R. Australia-Carnarvon, effective 7-March-76 and to be regarded as provisional w/possible variations during the period: 2100-2130 EE on 6035, 2130-2330 VV on 9700, 2330-0300 EE on 15190, 0300-0600 EE on 17860, 0600-1030 EE on 15190, 1030-1300 Mandarin on 9560, 1300-1430 Cantonese on 9560, 1430-1730 on 6035 (extension of hours from present 1430, no lang planned as yet). Preceding fqs all 250 kw. Following fqs, 100 kW xmttr expected operational 2/15: 2100-2230 EE on 7240, 2230-0030 II on 9560, 0030-0800 EE on 15415, 0800-1730 on 7215 (no lang determined yet.) (Bob Hanner, Australia, via Bob Padula of ARDXC) Darwin remains inoperational! Despite rpts originating in NZ, the stn is still out of action but occasional equipment tests are carried out, using temporary antenna. No plans at this stage to restore facility. Antenna destruction was complete during the cyclone and bits and pieces still lying on the ground. (Padula)

TOGO - 6155//3222, R. Lama-Kara QSLs now being rcvd in states. They have cut a new stencil with very correct verie statement (almost too correct...ahem, they use lang directly from my long FF ltr explaining what we DXers want, sent after I first received their polite but non-verie sked stencil). Now's the time...V/S E. Adjakly, secretaire. Cd, too. /Ed.

UNID. - 4865, unid. in FF, 2134-2200+, fair sig, native songs, M ancw w/doorbell type affair before each anmt, three bells (chimes) at 2200, YL w/ID, "Ici...Radiodiffusion Nationale..." then probable nx, 1/15. Can't pick ID off tape. (Bill Whitacre, Mich., via "Newsmemo" of Great Lakes DX Assoc. (GLDXC), 2609 Devonshire, Lansing, MI. 48910)

GUATAMALA - 3300, TGN, R. Cultural first stn to begin relaying TGW, R. Nacional, following quake. It's cooperation first hrd anncd over R. Nacional, 6180, 2-5 at 0444. Bad hed from Belize, but when that off air at usual 0510 s/off time, this was best channel for TGW coverage. Audio slightly distorted, probably off-air rly of MW 640. Continues emergency anmts through 2/9 xmsns, though mx content of pgms increased. (Hauser)

4825, R. Mam, 0115-0130 Indian/SS, ID, tks, mx, PS anmts, vy strong but being stomped by ute on 2-6 after quake. (Lineback) R. Mam only Guat noted 2-5 besides TGW/TGN w/own spcl earthquake bests. At 0100 happy marimba mx bits mixed w/urgent woman relaying "I'm OK" messages. 0102 ID w/fq by OM, giving many phone numbers in Cent. Am. of relatives; grew grandiose at 0118 calling hams in Madrid and Mexico to pass on good news and, at 0236, even calling hams in France in FF to call certain numbers. 0245 s/off mssg in SS, then vern, "horrible" mxcal interlude to 0254* (Hauser)

6180, R. Nac., main source of earthquake info, non-victim' names and phones of relatives, including some in USA (I was able to reach some in Chi and Houston, but both had already rcvd the news from 2 or 3 other callers). 2/7 ancd not only TGN rly but also R. Nuevo Mundo and R. Sensacion and R. Favorita in "Cadena de la Emergencia"; at 0238 said all non-victims would have to deliver messages in person as phones were jammed. 0307, said direct line open to R. Reloj, CR, but they were not rlying on 6006. 2/9 0043 had been re-named "Sistema de Informacion de Emergencia...encabezada por TGW y todas las emisoras del pais" so not all stns supposedly rlying. (Hauser) FB work, Glenn. /Ed.

PARAGUAY - 6015, Em. Paraguay, hrd at 0920 w/Jackson 5 songs, several IDs as Emisoras Paraguay, many ads, LA songs, fair. 6025, R. Nac, hrd 0938 w/fair signals. (McNeil, D.C.)

ADMIRALTY IS. - R. Manus, 0953, pop songs, DJ tks in lang, another song, lost 1001. Vy poor in QRM/QRN/QSB on 2-8. (McNeil) Pitt, think your 3945 may've been Vila on late. /Ed.

GRENADA - 15105, R. Grenada, not off SW, hrd 2-5 at 2115 w/disco songs, several IDs, TCs, and sked at end translates to 2000-2130 on 15105. Excellent strength, but not noted next two days. (McNeil) Last gasps of dying stn -- or resurrection? Was gone. /Ed.

INDIA - 3268, AIR-Kohima, 1537-1600 t/o 2/1 w/EE pgm, nx by OM then YL ID at 1545 and cmtly on Angola, it seemed. YL EE anmts 1553, then mx. Raga at 1600. My first reception of this regional, and rpt sent. (Dave Williams, Ore.)

3375, AIR-Gauhati, 1520-1535 t/o 2/1, gal singing sounded like rlg or temple mx by similar to mx hrd over Indo stns, time pips and AIR ID 1530. Then, nx in EE. (Williams.) Best Indian reception in quite some time, been plagued by local noise problem. (Williams.)

CAMBODIA - 4908, whatever it's called now, hrd poor 1320-1330 SEA lang, mx, YL tks, on 2-8. (Lineback) Since 1-9, IDs as Phnom Penh, Radio BC stn of Democratic Cambodia. (BECMS)

THAILAND - 11915, NBS-Bangkok sticking here after moving arnd 25 mb recent wks. Hrd 2-9 w/EE 0100-0130 and again arnd 1015 EE ID and into Thai at 1020. This is new SW EE svc in a.m. GMT, also noted on 9655 0103-0130 after using 9650 and 9654 for a time. (Padula)

OMAN - 11890, continues to be hrd here arnd 0400-0500 when signals mixed w/Paris co-channel until 0600. Via LP, fades out arnd 0700 on this fq. (Padula) Come summer, try this fq/time, NA DXers. Could bring ragged edge reception. /Ed.

N. YEMEN - Sanaa well hrd on new 7235 w/AA at 2115-2130; skedded 9780 inaudible. (Padula)

Late Flash - WCPB pirate was busted in mid-record on 2/7. (Adam Gaffin via Hauser)

Feb. LR-A : Copy available for SAGE from editor Andy Robins.